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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

In re the Application of

Hideaki YAMANAKA et al.

Application No.: 09/944,193

Filed: September 4, 2001

Docket No.: 110538

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4-8-02  
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For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC RECORDING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0048] as follows:

[0048]

Fig. 1 shows a cross-sectional structure of a magnetic disk according to a first embodiment.

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Fig. 2 shows a cross-sectional structure of a modified embodiment of the magnetic disk according to the first embodiment.

Fig. 3 shows a cross-sectional structure of another modified embodiment of the magnetic disk according to the first embodiment.

Fig. 4 shows a graph illustrating a hysteresis loop (major loop) of the magnetic disk according to the first embodiment.

Fig. 5A shows a minor loop of the hysteresis loop shown in Fig. 4, and Fig. 5B shows a minor loop of a hysteresis loop of a magnetic disk concerning Comparative Example 1.

Fig. 6 shows a schematic cross-sectional structure of a magnetic disk according to a fourth embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 7 shows a cross-sectional structure of the magnetic disk concerning Comparative